

Amendment No. 1 to SB0534

Gardenhire
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 534

House Bill No. 164*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-119(c), is amended by designating the current language as subdivision (c)(1) and adding the following subdivision (c)(2):

(2) If the child was voluntarily left at a facility or in a newborn safety device pursuant to § 68-11-255, the child has resided in the home of the petitioners for at least three (3) months, and the court has received the final court report concerning the circumstances of the child and the petitioners and is satisfied that the adoption will be in the best interest of the child, then the court may waive the six-month waiting period after the filing of the adoption petition and may enter an order of adoption.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-142(f), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

(4) If an infant is abandoned pursuant to § 68-11-255, then the department shall file a petition seeking termination of parental rights within ten (10) calendar days after the ninety-day period established in subsection (d) is completed. The court shall expedite the case and shall ensure that the hearing on the termination petition is heard within thirty (30) days of the date the petition is filed, unless the court determines an extension is in the best interest of the child.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.